

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/904,385

Examiner

Michael O'Neill

Applicant(s)

RAVERDY ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9-17-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7,9-27,29-40 and 44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 February 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



MICHAEL O'NEILL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gregory Koerner on 12-9-04.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 8, 28, 41 and 42

Rewrite claims 1, 21 and 44 as follows:

(currently amended)

1.[^] A system for supporting electronic gaming, comprising:
an event server configured to manage a game service, said event server providing a restricted access to said game service over an electronic network; and one or more user devices configured to communicate with said event server over said electronic network by performing a wireless communications procedure to thereby allow one or more system users to participate in said electronic gaming, said one or more system users each utilizing a respective one of said one or more user devices to perform a trading transaction for negotiating a transfer of ownership

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rights of an electronic certificate that represents a non-monetary based prize awarded as a part of said electronic gaming, said non-monetary based prize being unrelated to and unredeemable for money or monetary instruments, said trading transaction being conducted directly between a source device from said one or more user devices and a target device from said one or more user devices;

wherein said certificate includes owner information that identifies said ownership rights of said certificate, a certificate usage history that includes a chronological listing of various uses of said certificate, a certificate transfer history that includes a chronological listing of ownership transfers of said certificate, a certificate description that includes identification and authentication information for said certificate, security information that prevents unauthorized persons or entities from accessing said certificate, and data that includes at least one digital object that is related to said electronic gaming.

(Currently amended)

21. A method for supporting electronic gaming, comprising the steps of:

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managing a game service by utilizing an event server that provides a restricted access to said game service over an electronic network; and

communicating with said event server over said electronic network by performing a wireless communications procedure with one or more user devices to thereby allow one or more system users to participate in said electronic gaming, said one or more system users each utilizing a respective one of said one or more user devices to perform a trading transaction for negotiating a transfer of ownership rights of an electronic certificate that represents a non-monetary based prize awarded as a part of said electronic gaming, said non-monetary based prize being unrelated to and unredeemable for money or monetary instruments, said trading transaction being conducted directly between a source device from said one or more user devices and a target device from said one or more user devices;

wherein said certificate includes owner information that identifies said ownership rights of said certificate, a certificate usage history that includes a chronological listing of various uses of said certificate, a certificate transfer history that includes a chronological listing of ownership transfers of said certificate, a certificate description that includes identification and authentication information for said

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certificate, security information that prevents unauthorized persons or entities from accessing said certificate, and data that includes at least one digital object that is related to said electronic gaming.

(currently amended)

44.^ A system for supporting electronic gaming comprising:

an event server configured to manage a game service, said event server providing a restricted access to said game service over an electronic network; and

one or more user devices configured to communicate with said event server over said electronic network by performing a wireless communications procedure to thereby allow one or more system users to participate in said electronic gaming, said one or more system users each utilizing a respective one of said one or more user devices to perform a trading transaction for negotiating a transfer of ownership rights of an electronic certificate that represents a non-monetary based prize awarded as a part of said electronic gaming, said non-monetary based prize being unrelated to and unredeemable for money or monetary instruments, said non-monetary based prize being implemented as a game object for use by said one or more system users as a gaming element in a particular computer game during said electronic gaming, said trading transaction being conducted

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directly between a source device from said one or more user devices and a target device from said one or more user devices;

wherein said certificate includes owner information that identifies said ownership rights of said certificate, a certificate usage history that includes a chronological listing of various uses of said certificate, a certificate transfer history that includes a chronological listing of ownership transfers of said certificate, a certificate description that includes identification and authentication information for said certificate, security information that prevents unauthorized persons or entities from accessing said certificate, and data that includes at least one digital object that is related to said electronic gaming.

This Examiner's Amendment is being done to accept what was deemed allowable over the prior art of record back in the Advisory Action of 03/05/2003.

Response to Amendment

Applicant's amendment to claims 12 and 32 causes the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, rejection to be withdrawn.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MICHAEL O'NEILL', is written above the printed name.

**MICHAEL O'NEILL
PRIMARY EXAMINER**